



ALL children deserve the opportunity to grow up in schools and communities that support them in making healthy choices.

May 22, 2007

To: School Administrators
From: Montana Behavioral Initiative

If you share the following beliefs:

- ✓ All children should be taught the skills necessary for success: social, emotional, behavioral, and academic.
- ✓ Schools (pre-school through high school) are places where students can learn and practice positive interpersonal, cross-cultural, and citizenship skills.
- ✓ Effective use of a team approach, involving all school staff working together, provides a consistency that enhances student success.

You will want to explore the Montana Behavioral Initiative.

During the last ten years, more than 300 Montana schools have become involved in the Montana Behavioral Initiative—developing the attitudes, skills, and systems necessary to ensure that each student, regardless of ability or disability, leaves public education and enters the community with social and academic competence. Throughout that time period, MBI itself has evolved in order to best meet the needs of Montana's students and its educators. To learn more about the MBI principles, please visit the Web site at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/MBI>.

Professional Development

The MBI Summer Institute, being held June 18-22, 2007, brings nationally known professionals that provide training in the MBI principles. For additional information on the institute visit: <http://www.montana.edu/cs/mbi/>.



We are currently taking applications for additional schools interested in becoming MBI sites for the 2007-08 school year. Each site must identify a team that is representative of the staff at their site (including an administrator). In addition to the summer institute, there is an opportunity for teams to participate in two days of MBI training during the school year. Training during the school year will be held in the five CSPD regions in order to make it accessible for all those interested. Team trainings have been scheduled for the following dates:

September 17-18, 2007
Glendive and Polson

September 24-25, 2007
Great Falls

October 1-2, 2007
Billings and Butte

After team training, each school will identify MBI team facilitators who will receive additional training in Helena on November 5, 2007.

If your school is interested in becoming an MBI site or you have further questions, contact Susan Bailey-Anderson, MBI Coordinator, at (406) 444-2046, or e-mail at sbanderson@mt.gov.



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